

Message Text

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13-12

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /043 W

----- 045779

R 270945Z JAN 76

FM AMEMBASSY BANGKOK

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7336

INFO AMCONGEN HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

CINCPAC HONOLULU

COMUSMACTHAI BKK

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CINCPAC ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PRFOR, PDIP, TH, CH

SUBJ: PRC AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND, CH'AI TZE MIN, ARRIVES BANGKOK

REF: BANGKOK 19855

SUMMARY: THE PRC AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND, CH'AI TZE MIN, ARRIVED IN BANGKOK ON JANUARY 26 ACCOMPANIED BY SEVEN OTHER PRC REPRESENTATIVES INCLUDING HIS WIFE. THE TOTAL PRC REPRESENTATION IN THAILAND IS NOW AT 24. END SUMMARY.

1. THE FIRST PRC AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND, CH'AI TZE MIN, ARRIVED IN BANGKOK ON THE MORNING OF JANUARY 26. APPROXIMATELY 500 WELL-WISHERS GREETED AMBASSADOR CH'AI AT THE AIRPORT WAVING THAI AND PRC FLAGS. HEAD OF THE MFA PROTOCOL DEPARTMENT, DG SATHIT SATHIANTHAI, ACCOMPANIED BY M.R. KASEMSAMON KASEMSI, THAI AMBASSADOR-DESIGNATE TO THE PRC, AND TET BUNNAG, HEAD OF THE EAST ASIA DIVISION OF THE MFA, FORMALLY WELCOMED CH'AI TO THAILAND. ALSO ON HAND WERE REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS AND THE THAI-CHINESE COMMUNITY. THE AR-

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RIVAL OF AMBASSADOR CH'AI WAS MUCH MORE ORDERLY THAN THE

ARRIVAL LAST OCTOBER OF THE PRC SIXTEEN-MAN ADVANCE TEAM, HEADED BY LU TZU PO. LU AND PARTY WERE BESEIGED BY PRESS AND REPORTERS AND WERE UNABLE COMPLETELY TO AVOID THEIR QUESTIONS. HOWEVER, ON THIS OCCASION, AMBASSADOR CH'AI ISSUED A SHORT STATEMENT TO THE PRESS EXPRESSING HIS PLEASURE IN HIS ASSIGNMENT TO THAILAND HOPING FOR A BRIGHT FUTURE IN SINO-THAI RELATIONS.

2. AMBASSADOR CH'AI WAS ACCOMPANIED BY HIS WIFE, LI YOU FENG (2621/0645/6912); SECOND SECRETARY, LI MING YUAN (2621/2494/6678); ATTACHE, HUANG CHIH CHENG (7806/2535/2398); STAFF EMPLOYEES, LO CHAU HUNG (5012/2600/3163), PANG JUNG CH'EN (1690/2837/6197), WU YU CH'ENG (0702/3768/2052); AND MCNA REPORTER, LIU CHENG CH'U (0491/2398/0443).

3. AMBASSADOR CH'AI AND PARTY WERE ESCORTED TO THE AMBASSADOR HOTEL, WHERE THE PRC ADVANCE TEAM HAS BEEN STAYING. THE PRC OFFICIALS HAVE NOT YET ANNOUNCED THEIR PLANS FOR AN EMBASSY IN BANGKOK. THEY HAVE REPORTEDLY EXPRESSED A DESIRE TO BUILD A NEW EMBASSY, AND THEY ARE STILL LOOKING FOR A SUITABLE SITE. IN THE INTERIM, THEY MAY CHOSE TO RENT OFFICE SPACE IN ORDER TO FACILITATE THE PROCESSING OF VISAS AND OTHER RELATED EMBASSY WORK.
WHITEHOUSE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 JAN 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: morefirh
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976BANGKO01748
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760030-0810
From: BANGKOK
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760120/aaaaaqy.tel
Line Count: 85
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 BANGKOK 19855
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: morefirh
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 21 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <21 MAY 2004 by ShawDG>; APPROVED <27 MAY 2004 by morefirh>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: PRC AMBASSADOR TO THAILAND, CH'AI TZE MIN, ARRIVES BANGKOK
TAGS: PFOR, PDIP, TH, CH, (CH'AI TZE MIN)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006